

**Senate File 425 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 425

BY JOHNSON

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act providing for the issuance of special hunting licenses  
2 to certain nonresident disabled persons who are veterans or  
3 who are serving in the military.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 483A.24, Code 2013, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 11A. The commission shall issue a special  
4 turkey hunting license or any sex deer hunting license to a  
5 nonresident who served in the armed forces of the United States  
6 on active federal service and is disabled, or who is serving in  
7 the armed forces of the United States on active federal service  
8 and is disabled, to enable the disabled person to participate  
9 in a hunt that is conducted by an organization that conducts  
10 hunting experiences in this state for such disabled persons.  
11 The licenses shall be issued as follows:

12 a. The commission shall prepare an application to be used by  
13 the person requesting the special license, which requires that  
14 the person's attending physician sign the form declaring that  
15 the person has a disability and is eligible for the special  
16 license. The person is not required to have a disability that  
17 was sustained during military service to be eligible for a  
18 license under this subsection.

19 (1) The department shall verify that the license will be  
20 used by the applicant in connection with a hunt conducted by  
21 an approved organization that conducts hunting experiences  
22 in this state for disabled veterans and members of the armed  
23 forces serving on federal active duty who are disabled. The  
24 commission shall specify, by rules adopted under chapter 17A,  
25 what requirements an organization must meet in order to be  
26 approved to conduct hunts for disabled persons who obtain  
27 licenses under this subsection.

28 (2) The department of veterans affairs shall assist the  
29 department in verifying the status or claims of applicants  
30 under this subsection.

31 b. A license issued under this subsection shall be in  
32 addition to the number of nonresident wild turkey hunting  
33 licenses authorized pursuant to section 483A.7 and nonresident  
34 deer hunting licenses authorized pursuant to section 483A.8.  
35 However, a nonresident who obtains a license pursuant to

1 this subsection is not eligible to obtain a nonresident wild  
2 turkey hunting license or deer hunting license under any other  
3 provision of law.

4     *c.* The turkey hunting licenses are valid in all zones open  
5 to turkey hunting and shall be available for issuance and use  
6 during any turkey hunting season. The deer hunting licenses  
7 are valid in all zones open to deer hunting and shall be  
8 available for issuance and use during any deer hunting season.

9     *d.* A disabled person who receives a special license under  
10 this subsection shall purchase a hunting license that includes  
11 the wildlife habitat fee, and a wild turkey hunting license or  
12 a deer hunting license, if applicable, all for the same fees  
13 that are charged to resident hunters. If hunting deer, the  
14 disabled person shall also pay a one dollar fee that shall  
15 be used and is appropriated for the purpose of deer herd  
16 population management, including assisting with the cost of  
17 processing deer donated to the help us stop hunger program  
18 administered by the commission.

19     *e.* A special hunting license that includes the wildlife  
20 habitat fee shall be available for issuance under this  
21 subsection to a disabled veteran or disabled member of the  
22 armed forces serving on active federal service, for the same  
23 fee that is charged to a resident hunter, to enable such a  
24 disabled person to participate in a hunt conducted by an  
25 organization approved under this subsection for which only a  
26 hunting license is required.

27     *f.* A disabled person who receives a special license under  
28 this subsection shall complete the hunter safety and ethics  
29 education course.

30     *g.* A license issued under this subsection is valid for use  
31 only on a hunt conducted by an organization approved under this  
32 subsection.

33     *h.* The commission shall adopt rules under chapter 17A for  
34 the administration of this subsection.

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EXPLANATION

1 This bill requires the natural resource commission to issue  
2 special deer hunting licenses and wild turkey hunting licenses  
3 to certain nonresident disabled veterans and disabled persons  
4 currently on federal active duty in the military for use on  
5 hunts conducted by approved organizations that conduct hunting  
6 experiences in the state for such disabled persons. The  
7 department of natural resources is to adopt rules specifying  
8 what requirements an organization must meet to be approved.

9 The special licenses are available to nonresident disabled  
10 veterans and persons currently on federal active duty who are  
11 disabled, regardless of whether the disability is related to  
12 their military service. The department of veterans affairs  
13 shall assist the department in verifying the status of  
14 applicants for the licenses.

15 The special licenses are in addition to the number of  
16 nonresident wild turkey and deer hunting licenses that are  
17 otherwise authorized by law. A nonresident who obtains one  
18 of the special licenses is not eligible to obtain another  
19 nonresident wild turkey or deer hunting license under any other  
20 provision of law.

21 The special licenses are valid in all zones open to turkey or  
22 deer hunting, and during all turkey or deer hunting seasons,  
23 as applicable.

24 A nonresident who purchases a special license must also  
25 purchase a hunting license that includes the wildlife habitat  
26 fee, all for the same fees as a resident hunter. A nonresident  
27 who purchases a special deer hunting license must also pay the  
28 \$1 fee for the purpose of deer herd population management,  
29 including assisting with the cost of processing deer donated to  
30 the help us stop hunger program.

31 A special hunting license that includes the wildlife habitat  
32 fee is available to such disabled persons for the same fee that  
33 is charged to a resident hunter to enable the disabled persons  
34 to participate in a hunt conducted by an approved organization  
35 for which only a hunting license is required.

1     A disabled person who receives one of the special licenses  
2 must complete the hunter safety and ethics education course.